

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE
NATCHITOCHEs LEVEE AND DRAINAGE DISTRICT
May 13, 2014
7:00 p.m.**

BE IT KNOWN that a Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Natchitoches Levee and Drainage District was called in the Police Jury Meeting Room, Natchitoches Parish Courthouse, Natchitoches, Louisiana, on May 13, 2014, with a quorum being present, and roll was called as follows, to-wit:

Board Members present were:

Karlton Methvin, President/Administrator
Janet Jones, Secretary
Doris Rogé, Member
Billy Giddens, Member
Charles Brazzel, Jr., Member
Mark Swafford, Member
Rayburn Smith, Member

Absent were:

None

Also present were:

Brad Sticker, DOTD Engineer
Billy Dunn, Foreman
Alan Sheppard, Edko

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Natchitoches Levee & Drainage District was called to order at 7:00 p.m by the President, Karlton Methvin.

The minutes of the April, 2014 meeting were read and discussed. A Motion was made by Mark Swafford, and seconded by Doris Rogé, to approve the April, 2014 minutes. The Motion passed unanimously.

The April, 2014 financial statement had not been prepared by our CPA in time to present to the Board. The Board discussed the check ledger and agreed that the April, 2014 financial statement would be reviewed at next month's Board meeting, along with the May financial statement.

The maintenance report was given by Billy Dunn. Mr. Dunn advised that all of the floodgate structures had been sprayed. Additionally, the crew had made repairs to an area near Powhatan that had washed. They had also broken the beaver dams in several places, including a dam on property adjacent to Mr. Louis Wellan's place. There was about four feet of water backed up behind the beaver dam. Once the beaver dam was broken out all of the water drained out. They also went back and checked this area several days later and the beavers had begun rebuilding the dam. They again broke out the dam and the water drained out.

The crews has started bushhogging below Cloutierville. They will have all of the levees cut prior to the Corps inspection in July.

Mr. Dunn advised that with the Board's approval he had hired Jerry Nugent as a Heavy Equipment Operator to work part time during the summer months. Mr. Corkern advised that this position was approved by the Louisiana Department of State Civil Service and that Mr. Nugent was hired at an hourly rate of \$11.50 an hour.

There was discussion regarding the work done on the levee at Mr. Brian Jones' place. Mr. Jones had previously complained that one could not see over the crown of the levee until they actually topped the levee in either a vehicle or a tractor. Mr. Jones wanted to add some rock to the area and spread it so as to decrease the slope. In a previous meeting the Board agreed to pay for the rock, provided Mr. Jones paid for the hauling of the rock and spread the rock himself. On inspection, Mr. Dunn noted that it appeared only approximately 18 tons of rock had been spread instead of the 50 tons Mr. Jones had indicated would be needed. Mr. Dunn also advised that he had not received an invoice from Mr. Jones for the rock despite several requests. Following further discussion, a Motion was made by C. D. Brazzel, Jr. and seconded by Doris Rogé to provide that in the future if any rock, dirt or other material is placed on the levees the material must be billed directly to NLDD and not the individual, and only after receiving approval from the Board for the purchase of this material. The Motion passed unanimously.

In other business, Mr. Dunn advised that he had talked with representatives of SWEPCO about several power lines that were now dead. SWEPCO has given permission to remove the lines and the poles that encroach upon our right of way. At the present time

we have received only oral permission from SWEPCO, but they have agreed to put this in writing.

The DOTD report was given by Brad Sticker. Mr. Sticker advised that he was still working on the estimate for L-30 repairs. He will try to have this estimate ready for the next Board meeting.

Mr. Sticker further advised that repairs to the Cloutierville floodgates are moving along. We now have a Project Number assigned. DOTD estimates that the project will be let for bids in early 2015.

Mr. Sticker also advised that DOTD surveyors should finish up on their survey of Channel L-20 within the next week. When he receives the finished survey he can begin looking at design for improvements, and the Board can discuss what steps to take next.

Mr. Sticker inquired as to the contract for the lower Cane River floodgate repairs. Corkern advised that contract had now been signed by all parties and recorded with the Clerk of Court. A certified copy was sent to Mr. Richard in Facility and Planning.

There was further discussion among the Board members regarding the spraying that had been completed by Edko for thistles. The Board members were very pleased with the areas they had observed with one exception. Mr. Swafford raised concerns about one area and Alan Sheppard agreed to inspect that area personally.

In other business, Mr. Methvin opened the floor for public comments regarding the mileage rate for the tax year 2014. Following discussion, there was a Motion made by Rayburn Smith and seconded by Mark Swafford to adopt Resolution No. 3 of 2014. The Resolution passed unanimously.

In other business, a Motion was made by Doris Rogé and seconded by Billy Giddens to adopt Resolution No. 2 of 2014 authorizing the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development to access all property owned by or under the control of Natchitoches Levee and Drainage District for the purpose of making repairs to the Cloutierville floodgate structure located at Cloutierville, Louisiana under Louisiana State Highway 495. The Resolution passed unanimously.

Mrs. Rogé and Mrs. Jones gave a report on the 29th Annual Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana Workshop held in Baton Rouge.

Finally, the Board discussed preparing a plaque to be given to Mrs. Ann Sklar acknowledging over 35 years of service to the Natchitoches Levee and Drainage District by Adolph Sklar, Jr. The Board requested Mr. Corkern to obtain an appropriate plaque.

There being no further business to come before the Board, a Motion was made by Janet Jones and seconded by Doris Rogé to adjourn. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the Motion.

Approved on the 10th day of June, 2014, at Natchitoches, Louisiana, at a regularly held meeting.

RONALD E. CORKERN, JR.,
Attorney/Assistant Secretary